

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 14, 2005, has been received and carefully noted. The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11-18 and 20-27 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. No new matter is added. Claims 1-27 are pending in the present application and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001 1317953 (Tetsutaro) or Japanese Patent Publication No. 10-132595 (Tetsujiro). The Office Action took the position that Tetsutaro or Tetsujiro taught every element of claims 1-27. Applicant respectfully submits that Tetsutaro or Tetsujiro fails to disclose or suggest all the features of any of the presently pending claims.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-21 are dependent, recites a method for providing a user of a first mobile station with navigation guidance. The first mobile station is configured for wireless communication. The method includes generating location information regarding the first mobile station and a second mobile station configured for wireless communication while the second mobile station is moving along a path of movement. The method also includes generating navigation information based on the location information substantially in real-time. The method also includes presenting

navigation guidance by means of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling a user of the first mobile station to follow the second mobile station.

Claim 22 recites a communication system having at least one transceiver for wireless communication with a first and a second mobile station. The communication system includes positioning means for generating location information regarding the first and second mobile stations while the second mobile station is moving along a path of movement. The communication system also includes a controller for generating navigation information based on the location information in real-time. The communication system also includes a user interface for presenting navigation guidance for a mobile user of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile user to follow the second mobile station.

Claim 23 recites a mobile station configured for wireless communication. The mobile user equipment includes means for receiving location information regarding the mobile station and a second mobile station that is moving along a path of movement. The mobile user equipment also includes a controller for generating navigation information based on the received location information in real-time. The mobile user equipment also includes a user interface for presenting navigation guidance for a mobile user of the mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile to follow the second mobile station.

Claim 24 recites a communication system having at least one transceiver for wireless communication with a first and a second mobile station. The communication system includes positioning means for generating location information regarding the first and second mobile stations while the second mobile station is moving along a path of movement. The communication system also includes generating means for generating navigation information based on the location information in real-time. The communication system also includes presenting means for presenting navigation guidance for a mobile user of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile user to follow the second mobile station.

Claim 25 recites a mobile station configured for wireless communication. The mobile station includes receiving means for receiving location information regarding the mobile station and a second mobile station that is moving along a path of movement. The mobile station also includes generating means for generating navigation information based on the received location information in real-time. The mobile station also includes presenting means for presenting navigation guidance for a mobile user of the mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile user to follow the second mobile station.

Claim 26 recites a communication system having at least one transceiver for wireless communication with a first and second mobile station. The communication system includes a positioning device configured to generate location information regarding the first and second mobile stations while the second mobile station is moving

along a path of movement. The communication system also includes a controller configured to generate navigation information based on the location information in real-time. The communication system also includes a user interface configured to present navigation guidance for a mobile user of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling a mobile user to follow the second mobile station.

Claim 27 recites a mobile station configured for wireless communication. The mobile station includes a receiver configured to receive location information regarding the mobile station and a second mobile station that is moving along a path of movement. The mobile station also includes a controller configured to generate navigation information based on the received location information in real-time. The mobile station also includes a user interface configured to present navigation guidance for a mobile user of the mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile user to follow the second mobile station.

As discussed in the specification, examples of the present invention enable the location of the mobile stations. Examples of the present invention also provide an arrangement so that the route taken by a moving mobile station can be reproduced in substantial real-time. Thus, information regarding the route taken by a user of a target mobile station can be utilized, such as by another mobile user, so that the other user may follow the route taken by the target mobile station. For example, instructions may be presented to the driver of a following vehicle explaining how to follow the lead vehicle based on position data of the following vehicle. Information regarding the route of the

target mobile station can be provided in a substantial real-time manner, such that the following mobile user may follow the same route even if the following user is far behind the target user. Examples of the present invention prevent the following party from deviating from the lead party's path, even if the lead party is not in a vehicle or if the following party falls far behind the lead party. Further, bulky and expensive specialized equipment is not needed when used in a vehicle when following a lead vehicle. Applicant respectfully submits that Tetsutaro or Tetsujiro fails to disclose or suggest all the elements of any of the presently pending claims. Therefore, Tetsutaro or Tetsujiro fails to provide the critical and unobvious advantages discussed above.

Tetsutaro relates to a navigation apparatus having a navigation control device exemplified as a standard vehicle guidance system. A path guidance transmission part 122 is provided in a navigation control device 100 to transmit data for simple path guidance to a portable telephone 146 of a following vehicle 147 from communications equipment 145. Character and figure data are formed at a simple route guidance display data formation part 127 and data for voice guidance is formed at a simple route guidance voice data formation part 126. The number of portable telephone 146 of the following vehicle is registered at a transmission party registration part 124 such that the simple route guidance data is automatically and transmitted successively to the portable telephone of the following vehicle at a crossing for turning right and left. The simple path guidance data can be displayed in the form of text or in graphic form as a directional arrow or a simple path map.

Tetsujiro relates to navigation equipment having, at a first location, a camera, a first location detector and a transmitter, and at a second location, a detector and a display. Image and location data are transmitted from the first location to the second location and, when the second location matches the first location, the image data is displayed. Position data corresponding to the position of a point P2 is linked to picture information of an intersection, or point P3, viewed by a camera mounted on a head vehicle A and voice information for specifying its advance direction. The position data linked to the picture and voice information is transmitted to a following vehicle B. When vehicle B is moved to the position of point P2, the picture of the intersection viewed by the camera mounted on head vehicle A beforehand is displayed on a monitor mounted on following vehicle B to output voice instructions from a loudspeaker. With this arrangement, at an intersection or the like, the head vehicle can take a picture of the intersection and transmit the picture along with positional data and directional data to the following vehicle. As a result, following vehicle B can be moved along a route where head vehicle A advances.

Applicant submits that neither Tetsutaro nor Tetsujiro discloses or suggests all the features of the pending claims. For example, applicant submits that neither Tetsutaro nor Tetsujiro discloses or suggests generating location information regarding the first mobile station and a second mobile station and presenting navigation guidance by means of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling a user of the first mobile station to follow the second mobile station. In Tetsutaro, the position of navigation control device 100 is detected, i.e., the vehicle guidance system. Neither of

the portable devices described in Tetsutaro include any function suitable for locating the portable devices themselves. The position of the first portable device of Tetsutaro is tracked only when the first portable device is interfaced with the vehicle navigation control device. Thus, Tetsutaro fails to disclose or suggest generating location information regarding the first mobile station and a second mobile station.

Further, applicant submits that the second portable telephone of Tetsutaro does not have any means for being tracked. Therefore, Tetsutaro does not disclose or suggest presenting instructions to the driver of the following vehicle explaining how to follow the lead vehicle based on position data of the following vehicle. Applicant submits that a driver of Tetsutaro in the following vehicle has no positional information as to where the vehicle is along the path taken by the lead vehicle if the following vehicle falls too far behind. The portable telephones of Tetsutaro merely transmit and receive guidance data generated by the vehicle guidance system. Thus, if the driver of the lead vehicle left the vehicle, then the driver could not be tracked by the driver of the following vehicle. Applicant submits that these aspects of Tetsutaro fails to disclose or suggest generating location information regarding the mobile stations that allows the following party to track the lead party even if the lead party is not in a vehicle.

With regard to Tetsujiro, vehicles may be tracked using the camera mounted on head vehicle A. A driver of Tetsujiro in a following vehicle may be provided with instructions as to how to follow the directions in accordance with positional data of the following vehicle so that the directions are given at the correct location. Applicant,

however, submits that Tetsujiro, like Tetsutaro, fails to disclose or suggest the tracking of mobile stations. Mobile stations are not used in the tracking transmission operations of Tetsujiro. Instead, Tetsujiro teaches generating location information regarding a vehicle navigation system. Images from a camera are transmitted back to the following vehicle. Thus, if the driver of head vehicle A of Tetsujiro left the vehicle, the driver could not be tracked by the driver of the following vehicle. Applicant submits that Tetsujiro fails to disclose or suggest presenting navigation guidance for a mobile user of a mobile station.

In contrast, claim 1 recites “generating location information regarding the first mobile station and a second mobile station configured for wireless communication” and “presenting navigation guidance by means of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling a user of the first mobile station to follow the second mobile.” Claim 22 recites “positioning means for generating location information regarding the first and second mobile stations” and “a user interface for presenting navigation guidance for a mobile user of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile user to follow the second mobile station.” Claim 24 recites “positioning means for generating location information regarding the first and second mobile stations” and “presenting means for presenting navigation guidance for a mobile user of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile user to follow the second mobile station.”

Claim 26 recites “a positioning device configured to generate location information regarding the first and second mobile stations” and “a user interface configured to present

navigation guidance for a mobile user of the first mobile station based on the generated navigation information for enabling the mobile user to follow the second mobile station.”

Claims 23, 25 and 27 recite the features described above, as well as other features, and are drawn towards mobile stations configured for wireless communication. Applicant submits that neither Tetsutaro nor Tetsujiro discloses or suggests at least these features of the claims.

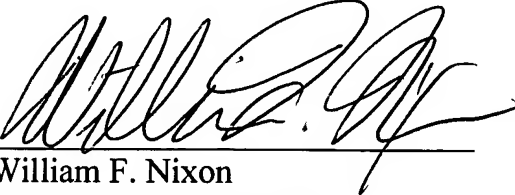
The dependent claims also are allowable for at least the reasons provided above, and because they recited additional patentable subject matter. Thus, applicant respectfully submits that neither Tetsutaro nor Tetsujiro discloses or suggests at least these features of the presently pending claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the anticipation rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, it is submitted that each of claims 1-27 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references. Applicant respectfully requests that all of claims 1-27 be allowed, and this application be passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William F. Nixon', is written over a horizontal line.

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